



TO: Job Placement Providers

FROM: Joleen Schaaque, Finance & Operations Manager
Patricia Henke, Supported Employment Coordinator

DATE: November 22, 2016

SUBJECT: WIOA Impacts to Successful Closure Payments, Tier II, Supported Employment Only

On August 19, 2016, the US Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration, published updated regulations directing the implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) within state Vocational Rehabilitation programs. On September 19, 2016, the Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) implemented policy revisions as a result of those federal regulations in WIOA throughout DVR policy. This memo addresses the impact to the Successful Closure payment timeframe for clients receiving supported employment services under Tier II of DVR's fee schedule.

Prior to September 19, 2016, Successful Closure payments were billable after all successful case closure criteria were met, which included, but were not limited to, a client being stable in employment for at least 90 days. WIOA legislation and DVR policy now require that DVR Counselors monitor clients for **at least 90 days in extended services after stability has been established** and prior to successful case closure. This change will result in a longer timeframe for DVR Counselors to close a case successfully, which also results in a delay of the Successful Closure payment.

DVR is implementing the Job Stability payment for impacted clients that is a portion of the former Successful Closure payment. The Successful Closure payment will now occur 90 days after the Job Stability payment. The new Job Stability payment is now \$1000, and the Successful Closure payment is now \$200. The new Job Stability payment plus the Successful Closure payment equal \$1200, the amount that was previously paid upon successful case closure.

The completion of a "Supported Employment Job Stability Report" will be required to receive the Job Stability payment and is located at <http://www.dvrcolorado.com/partners.php>. Please use this form to report that the client is stable on the job.

Job Stability means:

- The client, DVR Counselor, employer, and support team agree that the employment is stable and satisfactory;
- When an employed individual is reasonably expected to continue to perform all job duties acceptably, without the provision of further vocational rehabilitation services, and therefore transitioned to Extended Services;

The timeline for a client to achieve stability is individualized and based on a client having individualized supports to meet their needs in their unique employment setting. Approval for the Job Stability Payment indicates that the DVR counselor & team has verified that the client is stable in employment with the current supports and it's anticipated that successful closure will be achieved after the 90 days of being in Extended Services.



Extended Services means:

- Ongoing support services and other appropriate services that are needed to support and maintain an individual with a most significant disability in supported employment;
- Provided by an agency, which may include a State agency, a private nonprofit organization, the employer or any other appropriate resource including family member(s).
- The extended support provider shall contact the employer and the employee at least twice per month to monitor job stability. If under specific circumstances, especially at the request of the individual, the IPE provides for off-site monitoring, twice monthly meetings with the individual shall be conducted.

Milestone	Payment & Required Reports	Expected Engagement with Client and/or Employer
Job Stability	\$1,000 payment, Supported Employment Job Stability Report submitted	JPSP will have been engaged with client and/or employer through authorized job coaching services, if determined necessary by DVR Counselor. If job coaching services were not authorized, then JPSP will have been engaged with client and/or employer at least monthly from date of hire.
Extended Services	No payments by DVR, funded by another source JPSP will monthly progress reports detailing client & employer contact to include descriptions of services provided until successful closure	JPSP contacts the employer and the employee at least twice per month to monitor job stability. If under specific circumstances, especially at the request of the individual, the IPE provides for off-site monitoring, twice monthly meetings with the individual shall be conducted.
Successful Closure	\$200 payment, Closed Rehabilitated Report submitted within one calendar week of the minimum of 90 days in extended services or after, when closure is deemed appropriate. The closure report will include rationale for determining employment remains stable and detailing client's employment information.	Client and employer engagement is required through Extended Services provision, however, reporting to DVR is not necessary after DVR case closure.

The contributions of all team members remains critical during this time of transition while shifting to a new scope of service provision.

Sincerely,

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